10/14/66

The reveral on the envelope is no accident. It is deserved and anytway, she's the onw who is home and writes! The reverse is true here. My wife has been too busy with domestic things to do anything. She's making a bunch of stuff we think I can eat and freezing it so that when we get in the coming sweat I'll be able to. Working like old times on the farm. Too much. She'll write one of these days, L.A. It is hard for those who haven't lived as we have, and not for just the past two years, to know how exhausted she stays. I've been that way the past week, and it is a feeling I'm not used to.

The real reason I'm writing now is to thank you for your jolly letter. It makes me feel better, and to ask you to get the specifications on your airplane glue for me. Maybe as things develop I'll be able to get her on a plane sometime, and I'd like to be prepared. She had a rough time last time, one she hasn't forgotten since 1956, even though we on that trip won first prize for the whole country for raising chickens. That's a part of us you do not know.

This typewrite is beyond fixing. It is so old I do not know and cannot guess. Parts for it are not available (just lost my portable that way, RIP) so I've picked up another one just like it but in worse shape for spare parts. I can now replace every single part of this machine, one by one! I don't think those made todayx can take the whomping I give the keys when I get steamed up. Made a good deal on a portable today when we did our weekly grocery shopping. I had an electric given me that needed some work on it but was okky. That and ten bucks got me a this-years, repossessed Royal portable. Also got Lil a new Royal electric. Her stuff wont jump as much now. It, the old one, was an eye jerker. We've had it lined up and overhauled and its is in posture 'case the new one ppops out in the clutch, which will be soon. That is the only thing we have kept back from the printer from the entire gross of the book, save for postage for about a month. He was rather surprised when I asked his assent. So, between the two of us we have five typewriters now, two in use. Boy scout stuff.

You are, of course, right when you say there are too few of us. But we're the ones everyone tells, "You're above that" and all that jazz while the blood drips. I hate like hell for my wife to live and work the way she does and get all that juice from the holyholys who do the dirty stuff. Last time I spoke to Vince Salandria he was giving me this line, having just apologized for keeping me out of some of the minor magazines (which costs us and kept the book from the circulation it could have had). He was then talking of the NYReview piece. What I didn't learn until later is that he was doing the same thing, apparently, with Fonzi in the Greater Philadelphia magazine, when I had just arranged for distribution in Phila and shared a four-hour radio program with him. Fonzi emptied the wastebasket but couldn't find my name or that of the book. I do not have to tell you what else has been done, you've got an idea. Why do not some of those who now have it made leave a few crumbs instead of appeals to my lofty character? That will do my wife little good if anything happens to me. Right now all we have is an unattached property from which we have to move when we can and the literary properties. That sonofabitch Arthur Cohen ~~often~~ adertised fraudulently beginning four months before Holt's publication date and when it makes no difference, two weeks ago, finally says he'll stop. Viking sliced me up a little in Germany where I had something working in both magazine and book, I found out about the magazine when it was too late, emanwhile I'm sitting back waiting to hear, etc. Today, in glancing at the Bantam Epstein (how appropriate, though accidental, save he doesn't have the bantam's heart!) I now understand why I've not been able to get a letter or the return of my ms from Fischer Verlag for a year. They are the German publishers of Epstein! He gets on the radio where I live and lies about me and my work and then will not even let me answer. And I'm the guy who went all around the American Booksellers convention telling everybody to buy his book (he wasn't even there), who did a lot of work to help it survive its own flaws. I could go on and on. You know about Lane. You saw how he tried even to keep me from using real evidence on the show, used what was in my book as part of his on the show, what is not in his book, etc. I'm getting to the end of a short fuze. Those guys are

but hasn't

out for a buck, which is not dishonorable as ~~xxxx~~ long as that is not the only thing they want. They're now making so much they seem not to care about anything else. And as I've told you, I very much fear the doctrine of each.

If you think I should continue taking it, what do you think Penn would have done in my place when he got the message from Avon that they were holding back on their advertising and promotions for me to file suit (which I'd never planned)?

Hell, good people, there is a limit. I'm not there, but I'm close. Some of these really hurtful things have involved people I'd never expect such things from.

You didn't cloud the issue with Sylvie and Epstein. I was with Paul Noble all the night before, from before dinner, which we had together. He must have called Epstein and Viking a half-dozen times. He's just not a man. On all my early radio appearances I had to carry the dead weight of his defective scholarship and his stupid errors, while he set back and lapped up the dough. I did a sixty-page answer to LOOK for him, and sent it to LOOK. You know how I defended Lane in my book. Those guys are just not men.

I can't figure Suavage and I shan't try. I offered him what I had when he had no publisher and when he had his World deal. I sent him a copy of my book when I had one, one of the first. I've not even had an acknowledgement. I wrote the New Leader praising him and them. So, he reviews Epstein's book and he and they have yet to mention mine. I offered to tape a flattering introduction for him on WCAU, which has a large and by now the best-informed audience on this subject. I talked them in to asking him when they had doubts.

So far as I am concerned, the only other human beings in this business are you two.

I'd like to make a few suggestions I should have made earlier. Send ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ copies of your book to all the major British papers. They are giving this a big play now. My agent will not cut your throat. I asked him to tell the British editors he knows that you are the expert on the strange deaths. Maybe send him one, too. If you send by air, use the paperback and "Air Postal Union" which is much cheaper and just as fast as parcel Post. Especially the London Sunday Times, Observer, Express and Standard. They have all carried stories. I forgot to mention you when I had a long talk with the chief editor of the French Broadcasting System. He is doing something for the anniversary. His name is Mehl and addressed at Paris it should reach him. Or, I'll take one to their Washington men for you. I'm sorry I forgot, but we got me off on philosophical things. If you write him with it, tell him I asked you to send it. I told him about Lane and Holt (believe it or not, he didn't know!), even who to call at Holt's. Which makes my forgetfulness less excuseable. At Le Monde in Paris the expert is name Almaric. He never acknowledged receipt of mine, but I think he should have it. Or, I can give it to their Washington men, de Bausset of Paris Match, and AFP. Reuters is in the National Press Bldg. I beat their ears about you for a good half-hour about two months ago. They've moved little or nothing, but they should have it for when. If you want the Washington Post to have it, Larry Stern, National Desk. The Star, which is quite antagonistic, Charles Seib, asst mg. editor. Tom Wicker at the NYTimes Washington, if you want him, not Graham. Let him give it to Graham. 1701 K. St., nw. If you haven't, I think you should sent one to Congressman Emanuel Celler, chairman, House Judiciary Committee, and Senator Joseph Tyding of Md., who was a friend of JFK and is on the Senate Judiciary Committee with four years to go.

Guess the Xrays didn't explode, for they haven't called me. I wonder if I've just been ~~xx~~ been beating it too hard. Gotta quit and put on presentable clothes. A photographer is coming. I've also been doing a little work on the press, some of the major papers. Week from tomorrow night six or eight of the senior reporters of the Baltimore Sunpapers are having me to a stag. Can you send me a hardback copy I might use on TV sometime. I'm to be on in Baltimore next Wednesday, and that is now to late. But I'm to do a show in Washington within the next two weeks and I'd like to flash your book when there is talk talk of the strnage deaths. Thanks for the pep talk and our best.